

IN THE SPECIFICATION

At page 2 of the specification, please replace paragraph number four with the following paragraph:

[0004] In the case of PVCs, a quasi-permanent connection is established (e.g., a connection that last for days, weeks, months, etc.). PVCs are often used in situations where a large corporate user desires to permanently clear a guaranteed pipe through the network ~~100~~ 101 from one large office to another large office. For example, if node 105₁ corresponds to the Customer Premise Equipment (CPE) of a first corporate office and node 105₂ corresponds to the CPE of a second corporate office, a PVC may be established that couples nodes 102₁, 102₄, 102₇ and network lines 103₃, 103₁₁ together (in order to form an end-to-end path through the network 100 between CPEs 105₁ and 105₂).

At page 18 of the specification, please replace paragraph number fifty-six with the following paragraph:

[0056] The Horizontal Link PTSE type is commonly used to transport information that pertains to a link, or a portion of a link. That is, finer granularities ~~that~~ than the whole of a link's resources may be specified or described with a Horizontal Link PTSE. These finer granularities may be used to develop a deeper understanding of the network's bandwidth allocations. For example, the industry standard field 704 of a Horizontal Link PTSE can specify a particular type of service such as a Constant Bit Rate (CBR) service, a real time or non-real time Variable Bit Rate (VBR) service, an Available Bit Rate (ABR) service and an Unspecified Bit Rate (UBR) service.